

Individual Projects of the Environment Subcommittee

Research on washed-up driftage on the coast of the Northwest Pacific Region 2006 (Toyama)

1 Objectives

It aims to grasp the current status of contamination by artificial articles such as plastics on the coast of the Northwest Pacific Region. This is carried out by collecting, separating, counting and weighing washed-up driftage. Its findings will serve as primary data in working out measures for the protection of the marine environment and fishing grounds and countermeasures against waste

The research will also make participating residents gain a deeper understanding towards the marine environment and have a higher awareness of the importance of not throwing garbage and trying to protect it.

2 Outline of the Research

(1) Period:

From September to October, 2006

(2) Places:

Coasts on the Northwest Pacific Region (4 coasts at maximum in a municipality)

(3) Method:

i Main body

The municipalities with students of elementary, middle and high schools, and civil societies

ii Procedure

- Setting three research areas consecutively from water's edge toward the land (1 area:10m×10 m)
- Collecting all artificial objects from the areas, separate them as follows, weigh and count them.

plastic	rubber	Styrene foam	Paper
cloth	glass/ceramic	metal	other artificial objects

iii Outcome of the Research

The research results reported by municipals to Toyama Prefecture are to be summarized and compiled by NPEC.

(4) Participating Municipalities

The research was carried out in 52 coasts of 26 municipalities by the member of the Association of Northeast Asia Regional Governments and other municipalities.

Japan: Hokkaido, Aomori, Akita, Yamagata, Niigata, Toyama, Ishikawa, Fukui, Kyoto, Hyogo, Tottori, Shimane, Yamaguchi, Fukuoka, Saga, Nagasaki

Russia: Primorsky, Khabarovsk, Sakhalin

Korea: Gangwon, Chungchongnam, Kyongsangbuk

China: Liaoning, Hebei, Shangdon, Jingsu

3 The Results of the Research in 2006

(1) Participating Municipalities

25 municipalities from the Association of Northeast Asia Regional Governments and other municipalities along the Japan Sea conducted the research in 53 coasts.

(2) The findings

The findings of the research in 2006 will be reviewed and summarized in the Review Meeting of the Research which will be organized in 2007.

Research in 2006



JAPAN Akita prefecture



KOREA Kyongsangbuk-do